LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY.

WORK OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE. TESTIMONY GIVEN BY MAYOR COOPER, JUSTICE

SHEA, FRANCIS J, TWOMEY AND JAMES M'GOWAN -THE CLERICAL FORCE OF THE BOARD OF AL-DERMEN, THE MARINE COURT AND THE MAYOR'S OFFICE-DEFICTS IN THE CHARTER POINTED OUT BY THE MAYOR.

Four witnesses were examined at yesterday's session of the Special Committee of the State Senate. Searching inquiries were made into the clerical force employed in the Board of Aldermen, the Marine Court and the Mayor's Office. Mayor Cooper pointed out what he considered to be the defects of the City Charter, and explained the duties of the Board of Estimates and Apportionment. The Committee manifested a disposition to get at the bottom facts.

FOUR CITY OFFICERS EXAMINED.

The special committee of the Senate met yesterday morning at the City Hall. All the members were present excepting Senator Mills. Several witnesses were called, and their examinations were conducted by Senators McCarthy and Strahan, Francis J. Twomey, the clerk of the Common Council, was first called to the stand. He said that he had been in his present position since 1875, except in 1879, when Mr. Patterson was the clerk. He claimed to be familiar with the workings of the office. He was questioned by Senators McCarthy and Strahan, and answered as follows:

What is your salary ? Four thousand dollars, Was your salary reduced 10 per centum last winter by ne Public Euro as bill? the Public Burdens will !

It was not; the Corporation Counsel decided that that bill did not apply to the Mayor's office or to the Common

Journell.

How often does the Common Council meet?

It has a regular meeting once a week. It is occupied at

It has a regular meeting once week.

It has a regular meetings beld!

How often are special meetings beld!

Probably they do not number more than five in a year.

What is the length of a syssion!

The sessions vary according to the amount of busicess; they probably average about two hours.

His an adderman any duties outside the meetings of the Board!

the Board!
Yes, sir; he must attend committee meetings to prepare work for the Board. The aidermen are also supervisors and county convassers, and they propose taxes.
Senator McCarthy-Of course they perform all the dutios imposed by law, but it seems that a very limited amount of labor is required. How long each day are you confined to your office!

Law in my office only from 9 o'clock until 4 o'clock.

You confined to your office!

I am in my office only from 9 o'clock until 4 o'clock.

What force of assistants have you!

A dearty clerk, a sergeautes arms, a librarian, an engrossing clerk, and an assistant engrossing clerk, five assistant clerks, one assistant engrossing clerk, five assistant teless one assistant information, a messenger, an assistant messenger and a doorkeeper.

Are all of these clerks under you!

Yes, sir; they are appointed by me, subject to the direction of the Board. I have never really made an appointment myself. I receive a last of the persons to be appoint content. There are really no rules for their appointment.

spent them. Take pointment. Sensitor McCarthy—Now I will ask you an important question. Weat proportion of this force can be dispensed with without damage to the public interests!

That would be hard for me to say. The capabilities of the men are not, as a rule, what they should be. If I could select the best men and pay them increased salaries, I might dispense with three or four.

What are the duties of your office!
They are prescribed by the charter and include the making and keeping of a list of general orders; doing the work and writing the reports of committees, and preparing papers and the minutes.

How many clerks are employed in preparing general orders!

How many clerks are employed in preparing general orders?

One clerk is engaged upon that work allithe day after a meeting. All the proceedings have to be engrossed.

How much engressing is done?

I can answer that by stating that the proceedings for the year 1875 filled 2.105 printed pages and those for 1876 filled 3,601 primes pages. The minutes are prepared by the clerks and when printed are engrossed. When I became clerk in 1875 this work was four or five years behind hand. Then we have to convail proceedings approved by the Mayor into an engrossing book, making a volume of 400 or 500 pages a year. These records have to be indexed. The manuscript records extend back to 1652. Previous to 1830 all of the records were made in manuscript, and after they were printed the written records were not dispensed with. written records were not dispensed with, ou think these written records could be dispensed

elerk employed entirely in copying the Mayor's approved papers I No; he is also engaged in the library. After the men have been appointed it takes me some time to find our what they are best fitted to do, and hence you will find that changes have been made in the duries and positions

that changes have been made in the duties and positions as assigned in January.
What are the duties of the deputy clerk?
What are the duties of the Board. He has no other special duties, but does what comes to his hand.
Do you think there are requirements for as many as are specifically designated clerks?

Baselise with three or four men? Yes; if I had the appointing power, but I would not be ton y the present salaries.
Commit you so consolidate your force that even the tace necessed salaries the work might be done at \$5 - \$x\$, case! Committee understood you to say that you could

How many clerks could you dispense with if the en-

consider the engrossing necessary

Don't you think the efficiency of the force would be increased by placing the appointments in your hands to I would not like to say. Mr. I womey gave to Senator Bixby a statement

showing that in 1870 the work of his department cost \$86,689, while in 1880 the appropriation was \$16,200. NO REDUCTION OF FORCE ADVANTAGEOUS.

James Medowan was next sworn. He said that he was formerly Assistant Clerk of the Common Council and that he was thoroughly acquainted with the interior workings of the Clerk's office. "I am not regularly employed there now," he added, Senator deCarthy-What is the labor or duty of the

s more head work than anything else; he is his tide; is more officer, seri of executive officer.
In your opinion is the present force absolutely necesk the office could get along with ten or twelve

including messengers, many McCarthy-liow many men are required for all work of permanship! Would three men be able the the reports and resolutions and do work of that

haracter !
Yes, judging from past experience.
How many mes are needed to put in shape the work
eff after a meeting of the Roard!
Two could do that. This does not include engrossing.
How many are needed for the engrossing work!

at two. There must be one man to do the senicum of records a sorgeant at arms is necessary; two librarians and three messengers are needed; the Goor-seeper might be dis in your judgment a reduction could not advan-

No.

Can you 'urnish any information without my a
put, that would be perfinent to a reduction of the
case of the Common council !

andor. intor Strahan : Mr. McGowan, are you employed in office at all I an, but I depend upon fees for my co inpensation, nat work do you? What work do your I do the searching and other work that comes to me. Have you any other business !

nave not.

Out are a sort of factorine, are you not!

(es; you cucht to knew tent.

Inn't you do the wora of these men who are drawing

nd a belging hand.

Are you pand for the work you do in this public office I aim pand by the fees of persons from outside who int work done, such as scarching and copying.

Smaller S range—If you so the work of men who are in by the public, don't you think you should left the own? or McCariny-I was given to understand that

Scientor Medicaring I was given in the witness, as he did the work of many of the cleras in the office. Do the clerks may you for your work? I never received a cent from any clerk in the depart-ment or from any officer.

Have you ever been paid out of a contingent fund t.

If restret \$150 out of the contingent fund in the
Course of the Iweed investigation; I was never so paid
any other time.

JUSTICE SHEA'S TESTIMONY. Justice Shea, of the Marine Court, was the next

witness. After he was sworn, Senator Straban We find that your court has a great many clerks. There are ten who receive scharies of \$2.600. We want to know how many of these clerks can be dispensed

With.

All know is from inforquation and observation. I thick the present force is fully needed. If any change is to be made it should be increased rather than diminished. The court has been much scattered, but we are soon to have rooms in this building, and the court will measure brought together, that enable you to decrease the force of clerks

and officers it.

I was answer your question by making a statement.

My information, from certificates from the Finance Department and from the Search's office, is that the amount
of passness accomplished by the Marine Court is onemaif of an the judicial business. That is certified by the
union it of money paid into the city measury—an amount
of passness accomplished to the cortisal the money
rom auturalization less is deducted. Now, the force of
the Marine Court does not exceed, if it equals, the force
of any one of the other courts.

Marine Court does not execut, if it equals, the force any one of the other courts.

Less the Court make any of these appointments!

Less the Court appoints the Clerk, and he appoints the cors and clerks. We hold tim responsible, as you give any of the details of the working of the ne clerk and it is a court!

era could do that. There are thirteen officers of The certa (by officers I menu attendants. We are noting three trial terms, one special term, and each month as a geral term. In a trial term we for que nily have two juris as the same time. One officer is required to take charge of a jury and one to attend apan the court. There should be two always to provide for sickness. In the special terms we frequently have juries. It may

occur, and does happen, that four distinct trial terms are going on at once. It is a treaduall, are; we find it so. I think the gentlemen at the bar will scree that three officers are absolutely necessary for each trial

that three officers are associately accessary to each access.

What would you say of the present force if there were only one trial term !

It would be a disgraceful waste of the public money. What is the duty of an officer!

To be persent at the opening of court, to act as the police of the court and keep order; to swear in witnesses; to see to the empaneiths of juries and to bring books from the library when they are required by counsel. He also has to take charge of the jury when a case is ended. Even when undecupied he must be present. It is my experience that three officers are needed in every branch of the court.

Could not come of these duties be performed by the uniformed police!

Could not some of these daties be performed by the entirormed police?

I could not say. That has been proposed, but I can give no opinion based on experience.

Could not the superannuated police be made useful in

Could not the superanumated police be made useful in this way?

A speedy messenger is often required, and counsel would not like to be served by a lame officer. So requisite is speed at times that a counsel often has his own attendance.

What do you knew about the management of the office of clerk! What is your opinion of the cierical force!

If the Marine Court enters as many as 12,000 judgments in a year, as I am informed it does, the clerical force, instead of being too great is too little. One half of the work is thus done with one quarter of the force. If there is too much expense anywhere, it must be looked for elsewhere. I know that when a clerk has been sick a man has been taken from me to supply his place, showing that his work could not be done by the clerical force.

Are the duties of the clerks so operous as to require this force!

his force I
It is my honest opinion, derived from experience and
rom information from members of the bar, that the
orce is needed. I may be in error, but I hardly think it

Do you regard the salaries as excessive ! I should not like to say anything about the clerks un-Do you think an efficer at \$1,000 excessive ! I do not.

MR. TWOMEY RECALLED. Mr. Twomey was recalled and asked what salary e expected to receive next year. His reply was that n the estimates he had put it at \$4,800, but that the Board of Aldermen would fix it.

the Board of Aldermen would fix it.

Senator McCarthy—I see that in your estimate you have fixed one amount required for your office next year at \$14,580, and that you have included saturbs for only nine persons. The Board of Estimate and Apportionment has allowed you \$18,000. Why is that I the estimate I made allowed for the reduction of the per centum, but the Corporation Counset has decined that this reduction does not apply to us. We were allowed \$16,000 this year, and the appropriation has been expended already. The Board has allowed us \$18,000 as the sum needed. The decisionsy that will can be applied by a transfer if the Board has decided. Why was the appropriation expended before the year ended. in obesience to the orders of the Board of Aldermen. The Board directed what salaries should be paid. Is that a yearly practice ! It never occurred in my office before.

Mr. Twomey was asked whether, if he had left his own salary at \$4,000 and had not increased the salaries of two of his clerks by \$500 each, he could not have increased his force even with the sum be had asked for. His reply was somewhat confused and did not fully meet the question.

TESTIMONY OF MAYOR COOPER. Mayor Cooper was then called and sworn. Senator McCarthy began the examination by asking the Mayor whether he could dispense with any portion of his force in the interest of the people of Newyork without detriment to the public service. The witness, after reciting a list of the employes in his office, said:

The four last named are in the Marshal's office. I do not think there are more persons than are necessary. In the Chief Clerk's office there are the chief clerk and the

the Chief Clerk's office there are the chief clerk and the secretary. It is possible for one of these to do the work, but it is better to mave the two.

Senator McCarthy—It has been suggested that the Bureau of Permits is unnecessary, and that it could be merged in some other department without creating any additional expense to that department if the countries of the city. It is supported by its receipts. It receives the fees from the heenes of pawnbrokers, cabs, junk shops and heensed venders. It is very much better to have these permits granted by a bur can which is able to give them a proper supervision.

Is it not a fact that the Bureau of Encombrances has often to undo the work of the Bureau of Permits! And would it not be well to have the duties merged!

The Bureau of Encumbrances has peristicion outside the stoop line. It a man has a permit within that line and his neighbors oldest it is for the Eureau of Permits it act. I do not think there have ever been any complaints that may not been acted upon.

Cond not the work be done by one bureau!

I see no reason why, so far as the streets are concerned, the work should not be done by the Bureau of Public Works.

Senator Straign—Mr. Mayor, it is a question of ex-

ator Straban-Mr. Mayor, it is a question of ex-

There is no collision between the two bureans and no There is no collision between the two bureans and no relation between their functions. This matter of pawn-brokers and cabs might just as well be put in the hands of the police, and the Mayor be relieved of them. By what authority was the Bureau of Permits created? By an order of the Common Council.

Some discussion followed here as to the right of the Council to create a bureau for which no provision was made in the Charter. Mayor Cooper said the bureau was probably created under the provision conferring the power to grant permits. Returning to the question of the abolition of the bureau, the

I do not think it will make any material difference in the expense weether the bureau is merged or continued. As a general proposition, I think it better to have the Mayor's offsee discharged of air these functions. Senator McCartay—Why, Mayor, cannot the chief clerk or the secretary be dispensed with I It is my impression that one efficient man could do the work. You can dispense with one, undoubtedly, if the Mayor work, and I do not think it will make any material difference in

pared for his guidance.

Have you say particular recommendation to give with
respect to the charter that would reach this point of
retrachment! We would like suggestions from you
that would reach the economy of the question or improve the charter.

My first criticism of the charter would be that I do

My first criticism of the charter would be that to most tank it provides for any sufficient responsibility in the government. In regard to the departments, the Mayor has practically no power of centrol. His power of removal amounts to little or nothing. I may be entirely satisfied myself of the corraption and unfaithfulness of an other, but unless I can prove the fact, as it would have to be proven in a court of law, I have no power of removal. This runs down through all the denar ments.

the departments.

In general terms, then, you think the Mayor has not afficient control t

In general terms, then, you think the Mayor has not sufficient control I. As to removals be certainly has not sufficient power. There is consequently no practical responsionity of the departments to the Mayor.

What is the situation with respect to appointments I. The Mayor's power in that respect is very limited, the may nominate to but the nominations must be confirmed. That mean practically that the Mayor e most appoint such men as are fit, but such as can secure their own confirmation, the 18th and 18th and

APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPARTMENTS.

Some desultory conversation was had at this point regarding the action of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. Senator McCarthy said that he had received the idea that the Board never made any practical correction of the estimates, but that it generally granted what the departments asked. The May or sought to correct this as an erroneous mpression, and explained the difference between

the provisional and final estimates.

Senator McCarthy—I understand the Board must not as a unit. Cannot a member of the Board for political reasons missi upon certain points or block the public linesiness by refusing to pass the estimates!

That could be done. I suppose.

Senator McCarthy—I have been informed that the unexpend it balances of appropriations are speak as the

and a banances of appropriations are spent as the as of coarring that say see proper, and is not true. Paymetes are made by warrants and by the Mayor and ceroffed by the Additor. This are except in the Police Department. The law reconceived the the appropriation to be paid over but department cach month.

After some minor questions had been answered.

You can never control expenditures by saying that you can never control expenditures by saying that you can be prevent to incurring of liabilities. If any number impolities is incurred when there is an unexpended involuties is incurred when there is an unexpensed inpropriation greater than any one of these habilities, the Courts have decided that the city may be sued for all of them. The charter meant to cut off all of such labelities, but it is defective in that point. Labelities are incurred in excess of the appropriations, but if the fearing testimate and Apperticument should retuse to provide for them, the city would be sued. To meet cases a this kind transfers are laked for. Thus the Finance ind Poince Departments have asked for the transfer of propriations. I do not favor granting them.

The salaries of your office amount to \$16,000, excluding the Bureau of Permits. And the expense of your fifee for salaries is dimited by law to \$20,0001.

This the law been construed by the Corporation Counsel to the effect that your office is allowed the \$20,000 outside of the Bureau of Perants 1.

I think so,
Senator Strahan—Either the clerks employed in the bureau are on the salary list of the Mayor's office of the are not. If tooy are not, the only authority by water they exist is an ordinance of the Common Council. Now, where has the common Council the right to appear such a bureau 1.

From the power it has to regulate the granting of perants, i presume.

Senator McCariny—Has the Board of Apportionment the right to investigate ine details of departments and appears the salarous!

of the salaron I have is no such power in the

Senator Straham-There is no such power in the Board, but there should be, Mayor Cooper-r do not entirely agree with that. The Board has the power to inmit the appropriation, and thus can control the department. I am not in favor of having the Board specify salaries.

Senator Mediathit—Does the Board go into the economy of the business; Does it ask the heads of departments whether they can reduce their forces and other-

wise cut down their expenses! I think your Board, Mr. Mayor, has the power to do a great deal more good for this city than this committee can do in the matter of

Mayor Cooper-The provisional estimates are made ut with no particular exre. but the final estimates at not made until the most careful examination has bee ade into the departments

made into the departments.

You can only make a transfer when a department makes a request !

The Boord acts only upon such a request.

Senator Straman—The salaries of the police and the fremening fixed by law. The salaries in the departments are fixed by the acids of these departments.

Mayor Cooper—In my opinion the salaries of the police. Mayor Cooper—In my opinion the salaries of the poiles and firemen should be fixed by law. There are so many persons who would otherwise make the question of their salaries a political question.

Senator McCartay—Do you think the present method of cleaning the streets the best and most economical?

If you ask after the fact and not with regard to the system, I should say no.

system, I should say no.

Do you think the system of day labor better or less expensive than the contract system?

The trouble is that contracts always have clauses in them leaving a ceroim amount of discretion. The contractor must have the department on his side to be successful.

Senator McCarthy—Before Mr. Beiden went in as Mayor of Syracuse the street-cleaning by day's labor cost \$28,000 a year. Under the centract system he had the work done better than before for \$8,000 a year. Mayor Cooper—If the work is under the centract of an honest and canable man the day's labor system will be about as cheap as the contract system. Given a head who proposes to his duty the work can be done as well one way as the other. The committee will meet this morning, and Mayor Cooper will continue his testimony.

EX-JUDGE MORRIS ASSAULTED.

BRUTAL ATTACK BY A PRIZE-FIGHTER. EXCITING AFFRAY IN A BROOKLYN RESTAURANT-MR, MORRIS STRUCK AND KICKED BY EX-ALDER-

MAN JAMES DUNNE-AN AFFAIR RESULTING FROM POLITICAL FEELING. An assault, of which ex-Judge Samuel D. Morris

was the victim, growing out of the recent political canvass, occurred vesterday afternoon in Brooklyn. The Democratic candidate for District Attorney in Kings County, ex-County Judge James Troy, was named to the County Convention which met in Brooklyn about ten days before the election, by James Danne, who is a clerk in the office of Coroner Simms. Dunne is an ex-prize-fighter, and his advocacy of Troy's nomination was much commented upon, even among respectable Democrats. Ex-Judge Morris wrote and had circulated a paper denouncing Troy's nomination as an encouragement of the criminal classes, and reflecting very severely upon Duane. The circular said, in part :

upon Dunne. The circular said, in part:

James Dunne is a professional prize-fighter and has been engaged in some of the most brutal and disgusting scenes ever witnessed. He is a ballot-box stuffer. He is a violation of law, and his hand is raised against the peace and good order of society. He is a representative of the most dangerous element in the community.

And should Danne succeed in electing his candidate would it not be regarded by all criminals as a triumph over law and good order i Would not the burglar enter your house at night with less fear and trembling! Would not your house be less secure and your lives and property in greater danger!

It is a menace to the city. The dangerous classes, through their champion, James Dunne, have given notice that they mean to control the District-Attarney's office. They defy public sentiment and outrage public deceney.

The circular was approved by Judge Morris's The circular was approved by Judge Morris's

partner, Thomas E. Pearsall, and was sent to a very large number of voters in Brooklyn. Mr. Troy was supported for District-Attorney by yery few lawyers, and ran over 20,000 votes behind the Presidential ticket in Kings County. About half-past 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon

Judge Morris, in company with Benjamin Middleton, a former Deputy Sheriff, entered the chophouse and restaurant of W. P. McLennon, at No. 175 Clinton-st., near Atlantic-ave. They called for eigars, and sat down by a table to smoke. Shortly afterward James Dunne entered, in company with several of his friends. He walked up to Judge Morris and said:

several of his friends. He walked up to Judge Morris and said:

"I want you to take that back."

He did not say what he wanted taken back, but presumably referred to the circular reflecting upon him. Judge Morris responded middly, saying that he had come there to smoke, and wished to have nothing to say to Dunne. The latter repeated his request, and Judge Morris made the same answer as helore. Then Dunne doubled up his fist and struck Judge Morris in the fuee, on the left side, just below the temple. The blow was a powerful one, and was followed by two more. Then as Judge Morris started to rise from his chair, and as he stooped over with his hands upon his knees. Dunne kicked him twice also in the face. Mr. Middleton made an ineffectual attempt to interfere, as Judge Morris gained his feet Dunne started to go away, and left the room with his friends. After Judge Morris had gone Dunne returned, and remained for several minutes.

Judge Morris was assisted to a dentist's office in Judge Morris was assisted to a dentist's office in the Athenaeun Building, at Clinton-st, and Atlanticave. Blood flowed from his nose and from an abrasion of the skin in his cheek. The wounds were dressed by a physician, and the swelling was reduced by local applications. Then a coach was called and Judge Morris, who was able to walk down stairs, was taken to his home. No. 55 South Oxford-st. His law partner, Thomas E. Pearsail, was'summoned before he went home, and told the policeman who was sent for by McLennon, proprietor of the saloen where the assault occurred, that it was not desired that the police should take action in the matter, as it would be laid

desired that the police should take action in the matter, as it would be laid before the Grand Jury, and an indict-ment would be pressed against Dunne. The only winesses of the assault were Mr. Middleton and Dunne's friends, as both McLennen and his bar-tender were out of the room. As soon as the affair was reported to Captain Cambell, of the Washing-ton-street, Edine, he visited, he soon soon

was reported to Captam Camabell, of the Washington-street Police, be visited he scene and accertained all the facts of the case.

Judge Morris was as comfortable as could be expected under the circumstances last evening, but refused to say anything for publication in segard to the assault. He is about liftly years old and has been well known in Brooklyn for many years, where his law practice is extensive and where he has filled the office of District-Attorney and County Judge. Before the County Convention met which nominated Troy for District-Attorney this year, explicitly for the place.

Dunne is a man about forty years old, and has always lived in Brooklyn. When young he began the

ways lived in Brooklyn. When young he began the practice of prize fighting, and several years go he not in the ring "Jim" Edint and one Days, of California. Afterward he represented the Sixth net in the ring Jim Editor and one Pavis, of California. Afterward he represented the Sixth Ward of Brooklyn in the Board of Aldermen for two years. His present position is deputy coroner and clerk in the Coroner's Office.

The aftair was much discussed among Brooklyn

ine affair was much discussed among process, the affair was much discussed among process. Farther examination has evening by his physician, Dr. Daniel Ayres, of the injuries to ex-Jadge Morris, developed the fact that the cheek bene was broken by one of the blows which Dinne struck. He was very weak last night, but no danger is apprehended. W. P. McLennon, who keeps the restantant where the assault took place, said hast evening that Judge Morris was never in his place before, except about half an hour previous to the time of the assault, when he came in and asked if Mr. McLennon was Aisxander McClellan, and after the reply "No," be went out. Dunne had not been

A RELIC OF THE CANAL RING.

HOW GEORGE D. LOED MADE \$16,000 BY SECUR-

ING THE PASSAGE OF A STATE LAW. ALBANY, Nov. 10 .- At the session of the State Board of Audit to-day, the case of the Bank of Monroe attainst the State of New-York came up. This datu is based on a certificate for \$15,000 deposited with the bank by John Kiley as collateral for his note for \$15,000, which was never paid. The claim involved George D. Lord and the firm of Hand, Spaniding & Ben sett, of Buffalo, and the contract work performed by them at Buffalo and Black Rock in 1871.

Mr. Benneti took the stand and testified that Hand withdrew from the firm in 1871; that he (Hennett) was invited to George D. Lord's office, in Buffalo, where he was told a bill would be pushed through the L greature for the benefit of the firm, and that for such being dens we-tairds of the sum named in the bill were to be given two-tairds of the sum named in the bill were to be given to George D. Lord, and the remaining ene-third was to go to the contractors. He swore that such agreement was eveninally carried out, that \$26,845 rehet was added, and that Bo such, Lord's allooner, sot \$16,000 for Lord and \$1,000 for immediate about was divided up into criticates so as to facilitate their division as agreed about. The witness took the remainder of the criticates and gave Tandahans C. Davis a criticate for \$2.000. Witness further testined that when the matter was indeed to exclude the was arrested and indicted never been returned to ham.

Mr. Perkins appeared for the ciaimant and Deputy
Attornes General Rossics for the State. Decision was
reserved.

PRIZES IN PASTRY FOR RIFLEMEN.

The Board of Directors of the National Bille Association Tuesday arranged a novel match to be shat at Creedmoor on Thankagiving Day, specially designed to encourage young and mexpert riflemen. The match will be shot on the 200 vards range, begin umg at 10 s. m. an i continuing all day, rain or shine. Everybody will be entitled to enter; two or more can peritors will be permitted to use the same ritle, and each competitor will be allowed to enter an indefinite number of times with five shots at each enter. The negregate of the two bat scores will needle whether the campetitor be callifed to a prize. The prix will consist of good coll—our of \$20, four of \$10, six of \$5, four teen of \$2,50 and twenty have of \$1. After the match is concluded each of the fifty prizes is to be put in a chariotte russe and the fifty prize winners will each select and thus secure his prize. competitor will be allowed to enter an indefinite number

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

TAXING THE ELEVATED ROADS. THE COURT OF APPEALS DECIDES THAT THEIR STRUCTURES ARE TAXABLE AS REAL ESTATE-

OFFICERS. The Court of Appeals on Tuesday affirmed a de ision of Justice Barret that the structures of the New-York elevated roads are taxable as real estate. It is said that the effect of this decision most e to bring about \$700,000 into the city treasury from the roads, although counsel for the New-York Elevated Road said yesterday that the case might first be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States. The Tax Commissioners taxed the structures of

the elevated roads in 1878 as real estate, but the companies claimed that they could be taxed only on personal property. In making out their returns, however, they say they have no personal property. For instance, the New-York Elevated Railway Company was taxed this year on capital stock of \$6,500,000. As is allowed by law to deduct the cost of its real estate, which its swore statement says is nearly \$12,000,000, it would therefore pay no personal tax. The Fax Commissioners refused to accept such statements. When the books were opened in Jamary the stock of the New-York Elevated Company was selling at about 124, and at that figure the value of the stock would be \$8,060,000. The company contend that its loss in bonds should be deducted from the value of its real estate, and thus showed a deficiency to the Tax Commissioners, exclusive of loss on bonds, of nearly \$375,00. The Commissioners insisted on allowing the company only the difference between the loss on bonds and real estate at what it cost, which would be \$5,040,158, and that sum subtracted from \$8,060,000 leaves a personal tax of \$3.019,842, which the Tax Commissioners levied. A suit was begun against the Commissioners to set aside this tax. A tax was also levied upon the structure as real estate. The Metropolitan Elevated Read was assessed for personal taxes on its capital stock of \$6,500,000. In January the stock sold at 120, making a capital stock of \$7,800,000, upon which it was assessed. The company put in the cost of its real estate at \$13,750,000. Then it wanted to deduct the loss or the sale of its bonds, which would leave no tax at all to pay on personal property. The Commissioners however, only deducted the difference on the loss of the honds-\$6,312,500-from the valuation of the capital stock at 120, which made the company tax able on about \$1,400,000. The company began a suit to have the tax set aside. The New-York and Metropolitan Elevated Roads have been taxed on their structures for the years 1877, 1878, 1879 and 1880, at the rate \$100,000 a running mile, or \$200,000 a mile of double track, and the decision of the Court of Appeals calls for a payment of taxes on the part of the elevated roads for these years. The Manhattan Elevated Railroad Company, which resulted from the consolidation of the New-York and Metropolitan roads, has a capital stock of \$13,000,000, on which it has been assessed. The company, however, claims that it is not worth over \$100,000 for taxation purposes. The capital stock is taxed at 5214, at which it was selling January 14. That would make a tax upon a valuation of \$6,792,500. The Manhattan Company has begun a suit against the Tax Commissioners to have this tax set aside. The taxable valuation as real estate onge Loan of the Philadelphia and Reading Rathroad of the structure of the elevated roads for the years in which the companies are in arrears is about \$25,000,000, making about \$700,000 due to the city treasury.

In reference to the decision of the Court of Ap peals, a member of the firm of Field, Dorsheimer, Bacon & Deyo, attorneys for the New-York Elevated Road, said vesterday to a Tribune reporter:
"One branch of the case can be taken by appeal to
the Supreme Court of the United States, namely,
the question whether the third section of Chapter
855 of the laws of 1868 exempts the company from
taxation in excess of the payment of 5 per cent net
income provided by that section. The section declares that the payment of the 5 per cent 'shall be
the legal compensation in full for the
use and occupancy of the streets by said
railway, as provided by law, and shall constitute
an agreement in the nature of a contract between
said city and constructing company entitling the
latter, or its successors, to the privileges and rafes
of fare heretofore or hereinafter legalized, which
shall not be changed without the mathal consent of
the parties thereto.' The Court of Appeals has just
decided that this does not exempt the company
trous further payment in the shape of toxes. This
question can be carried to the Supreme Court of the
Luited States if the company wishes it. This littvated Road, said vesterday to a TRIBUNE reporter: decided that this does not exchap of taxes. This question can be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States if the company wisies it. This litigation was begun by the New-York Elevated Company, but since the lease the taxes, whatever they may be, will have to be paid by the Manhattan Elevated Railrond Company. Should any appeal be taken it will of course be taken very soon. The decision affects the Metropolitan Elevated Road and also the telegraph and street railway companies. It is undoubtedly based upon two points, whether the structure of the Elevated Company is real estate and whether the company is exempted from taxation by reason of the third section mentioned. The first parts just as applicable to the Metropolitan Elevated and the telegraph and street railroads, as to the New York Elevated, while the second point, on which an appeal can be taken, applies only to the latter."

Jose F. Navarro, of the Manhattan Elevated Railroad Company, sand that the decision would have no

Jose F. Navarro, of the Manhattan Lievated Rail-road Combany, sand that the decision would have no effect on the elevated road dividends. He could not say at present whether the litigation would be pushed any further by the company. Treasurer Body and Secretary Worcester, of the same com-pany, declined to express their opinions on the effect of the decision. James A. Cowing, see ctary and pany, declined to express their appropriate of the decision. James A. Cowling, see clary and treasurer of the New-York Elevated Radiway Company, said: "The question involved was whether we should pay taxes on our structure as real estate. The structure being in the street, we took the we should pay taxes on our structure as real estate. The structure being in the street, we took the ground that it was not real estate to be taxed, and if it was the tax must be paid by the city because the company has a centract whereby it pays the city 5 per cent of its net earnings for the use of the streets. Exactly what the decision was based on we cannot tell until we get the opinions of the Judges. The effect, however, is that we are bound to pay the tax on the structure as real estate. The daynesses of 10 per cent per annum, payable quarterly, will remain unaffected by the decision. The amount of money when the decision will cause to be baid over for taxes in 1878 will be about 833,000, and probably \$50,000 or \$60,000 for 1879 and 1880. The decision applies only to the New-York Elevated Road for one year, but how far the principle can be carried out in regard to other roads or the New-York Elevated in other years remains to be seen. If the principle is adopted I fail to see why it should not apply to street ratin-asis and telegraph companies. It is unpossible to say what will be done until a meeting of the Board is held, and the advice of counsel is obtained which will be after the opinions of the Junges have been received.

BUSINESS OF THE RAPID TRANSIT LINES ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MANHATTAN COMPANY -OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE YEAR'S BUSI-

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Manhattan Railway Company yesterday the elec-tion of directors was controlled in the interest of the Metropolitan Company. The six members of the former board, who represented the New-York Company, and Robert Harris, the former president, who was elected originally as a compromise member by the two companies, were dropped, and seven new directors favorable to the Metropolitan Company were chosen in their places. The present board is constituted as tollows: C. K. Garrison, William R. Garrison, George J. Forresi, Andrew V. Stout, John P. Kennedy, Arthur Lears, José F. Navarro, Horace Porter, E. F. Winslow, William Foster, jr., H. F. Dimock, R. M. Galloway and Mortimer Ward. The new members are W. R. Garrison, A. V. Stout, Arthu-Leary and the four last-named persons. All of them have been identified with either the Metropolican Company or the Loan and Improvement Company, The ticket was elected by the manimous vote of 101,712 shares, out of a total of 150,000 shares. A meeting of the new Board for the choice of officers will be held to-

statement of the business of the company for e last year was presented to the directors, showed that the carnings of the company had of the year surplus earnings anounting to \$501.216 57, which reduced the absolute de-ficiency to \$189,001 44. These surplus earn-ings were accumulated during the five months previous to October, 1879, before the Manmatian Company begon to pay the expenses at liked charges. The deficiency in the company fixed charges. The decleney in the company's business for the year is slightly larger than that reported by tyrus W. Field at the close of the year. At a alcering of the New-York Company, held on October 12, Mr. Field fixed the deficiency at \$478.791. Following is the official statement of never purs money in the place."—[Fun.

the earnings of the company for the year, compared LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE with those of the preceding year;

| 1879. | 1840. | 102. | 1840. | 102. | 1879. | 1840. | 102. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | 1879. | The average number of miles of operated rows increased in the year from 20 miles in 1879 to 27 miles in 1880. The total length of lines was 2 miles October 1, 1879, and 32 miles October 1 1880

THE SOUTHWESTERN PASSENGER WAR.

The conflict in railroad passenger rates has been confined thus far to the Southwest; it has not extended practically east of Chicago, although reduced rates to Cleveland, Pittsburg and minor eastern points have been made by the Chicago and Alton Company. It is known that the managers of at least one of the Eastern trank lines were approached yesterday with the purpose of scenring its cooperation in reducing rates to the Atlantic scaboard. The attempt is said to have been unsuccessful. Const uneasiness exists, however, among the Eastern companies, and it is considered probable that they may be forced into the struggle. No meeting of the presidents of the companies forming the Southwestern Association was called yesterday. Officers of the Wabash Company declare that they will not call another meeting; that the initiative mast be taken by the companies which violated the New-York agreement recently made. It is not thought likely by railroad men, that the Chicago thought likely by railroad men, that the Chicago and Alton Company will seek a reconclination at present. Some of the large stockholders of that company are said to be dissatisfied with the action of the officers in violating the New-York agreement, which, they say, was clearly understood. Meanwhile the contest is carried on with unabated vigor.

THE SLEEPING-CAR SUIT.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 10 .- The Pullman Palace Car suit against the Baltimore and Oulo Rathroad Company was continued in the United States Circuit Cour o-day. John R. Cowen, of Baitimore, concluded the argument for the respondents, contending that there being disputed questions of land and fact involved, the company should not exercise its high prerogative of injune E. N. Dickerson, of New-York, followed Mr. Cowen in

the concluding argament for the companions, as spoke until 3 o'coek, when the court adjourned. Mr Dickerson's argument was directed to the rights of pat enters, and what constituted infringement as decided by the courts. He will conclude to-morrow.

DIRECTORS OF A SURFACE ROAD,

The annual meeting of the Third Avenue Ranroad Company, for the election of directors and a spectors of election was held yesterday afternoon at the depot, at Sixty-fifth-st and Third-ave. The following ticket was unanimously elected, the holders of 18,000 ticket was unanimously elected, the holders of 18,000 out of the 20,000 shares of capital stock having voted: For Directors: Heary Hart, William Reimen, Lewis Lyon, Thurlow Weed, Robert Geo, Reimen, Heary Morrison, John W. Samier, Samuel Willels, Malthy G. Lane, Heary C. Hey, John Watson, Archibaul McMartin, Daniel S. McEiroy, For Inspectors: Newton Saulies, Heary Reimen, Albert J. Elias. The animal report for the year 1880 was submitted which showed that the net profits were \$400,000.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAYS. The "Broadway Underground Connecting

Railway Company" and the "New-York Underground Railway Company " have recorded mortgages to " Th Farmers' Loan and Trust Company," to secure bonds is sned to build a railway beneath Broadway. Bonds to the amount of not more than \$2.000,000 a mile of the road to be built are to be issued. It is said that the two companies will be consolidated, and therefore will build the road touch. the road jointly. AFFAIRS OF THE READING RAILROAD.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 10 .- The payment of

alf the interest on the coupons of the General Mort

Company began yesterday, the objections thereto having been withdrawn by the consolidated mortgage bond The report upon the value of the coel lands of the Reading Company has been completed, but it will not be made public. The receivers now have in their possession the detailed statement of the assets of both the Railroad and the Coal and Iron Companies; but their disposition of the estimates of the approximates that not be annotated until a plan of future policy has been

THE OLD COLONY RAILWAY. Bosrox, Nov. 10 .- The annual report of the

Old Colony Bailroad directors for the year ending September 30 shows the net earnings of the road to t \$1.201,647. The report also includes the Boston, Clin-S1.201.647. The report and New-Bedford Radroads. The directors say that the increased business necessitates the construction of a double track between Somerset Junction and the stations in Fall River, and that some progress has been made in this direction. A CHICAGO SUIT DECIDED. CHICAGO, Nov. 10.-The State Supreme

and Railroad. This is a case involving the condemna-tion of certain land necessary to secure entrance into the city of the Western Ladana Railroad. It is a sun-stantial victory of the latter road over the Lake Shore. A LONG LEASE RATIFIED.

Court has refused a supersidens to the case of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern against the Western Indi-

Boston, Nov. 10 .- The stockholders of the Boston and Lowell and Nashua and Lowell Railroad to-day ratified the recent lease for 100 years of the latter road by the former.

ANNUAL RAILROAD MEETING. INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 10 .- The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Cincinnati, Indianapolis, St. Louis and Chicago Railread was held here today. The gross earnings for the four months ending October 31 were \$919,000; operating expenses, \$458,000. Bonded interest and axes paid, \$220,000. M. F. Ingalls, George Holaxes paid, SZZJ,000. M. F. Ingalls, George Hondsley and S. J. Broadwell, of Cincinnati, George Bluss and C. J. Landon, of New-York, J. H. Parkins, of Boston, B. F. Evans, C. W. West and John King, jr., of Cincinnati, J. H. Deverenx, of Cleveland, Inomas A. Moreys and Thomas H. Sharpe, of Indianapolis, were chosen directors. M. E. Ingalls was a clocked president, and E. F. Osborne secretary

and treasurer. DR. ADAMS'S SUCCESSOR.

THE REV. DE. ROSWELL D. HITCHCOCK ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE UNION THEOLOGICAL SEM-

INABY. The Rev. Dr. Roswell D. Hitchcock, who for the last twenty-five years has occupied the chair of Church History in the Union Theological Seminary, was chosen by the frustees on Tuesday to succeed the late Dr. William Adams as president of the sem-

ary. Dr. Hitchcock was born in 1817 at East

Machins, Me. He was a student at Am-herst College, and was graduated in 1836, For some time he was a tutor in the college, and

for some time he was a tutor in the college, and subsequently he was a teacher in Philip's Academy, at Andover, Mass. He attended the Andover Theological Seminary, and in November, 1845, was ordained paster of the First Congregational Church in Exeter, N. H., where he remained until 1852. One of the years during his piastorate of the church was spent in study in Germany. In 1852 he was appointed Professor of Natural and Revealed Religion in Rowdon College, and in 1853 he was appointed to the Char of Church History, in the Union Theological Scianary. Dr. Hitchcock is the author of "A Complete Analysis of the Bible," which was published in 1859, and of a small work cutitled "Socialism," pnotished in 1878. Many of his sermons and addresses have been published, and he has contributed photospectra 1578. Many of this sermions and su-dresses have been published, and he has contributed a number of essays to different reviews. From 1863 to 1870 he was one of the editors of the dmer-sican Tacological Review. In 1866 he visited Greece and Italy, and during 1869-'70 he travelled through Palestine and Egypi. He was chosen President of the Palestine Exporation Society in 1871. The degree of Dector of Divinity was conferred upon him by Bowd in College in 1855, and in 1860 he was made a trastee of Amberst College. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Williams College in 1873.

EMBLZZLING PUBLIC FUNDS

At the office of the Steambeat Inspectors, in the old Post Office Building in Nassau-st., it was discovered recently that the accounts were not accurate, and an investigation was ordered. Refore the investigation had proceeded far the bookkeeper, Henry Freeman, disappeares.

Inspector Byrnes was informed of the facts, and yesterday be caused the arrest of Freeman told the bispector that he had stolen \$5,700 from the office, and had chained the license accounts to conceal the thefits. He said that he found a defect of \$70 in his accounts in 1877, and believed that the money had been appropriated by an inspector. He then deterbeen appropriated by an inspecior. He then deter-mined, he said, not to be left in the lives by the others, and he began to appropriate to his own use morey received for ficenses.

Freeman is forty-three years old, and has a family living in Douglas-st., Brooklyn.

"THERE IS A USE FOR EVERYTHING."-Sharp Child.— And so you are very poler, marin F Aced Farty.

—"An'l I'd be good of a copper from anybe ve." Sharp Corio.—"Free good a backendings—will you have to I' Aced Party.—"A mod sudding min's un use." Sharp Cond.—"On, and till That shows you don't go to course, and polyr many more or the tile. "—IFun.

MR. ASTOR'S BAGGAGE. ASSERTIONS OF HIS LEGAL ADVISER IN REGARD TO

THE CASE.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Srn : In your i-sue of November 6 I notice some statements under the head of "Daties on Wearing Apparel" which are incorrect. It is there reported in relation to the suit brought by Mr. William Astor to me cover back dulies on wearing apparel, that " Mr. Asions attorney applied to Mr. Merritt, the C. Bector, for permission to have their baggage passed free of outy; that the attorney was informed that the dense examination must be made to determine what articles were new or old, and whether they were therefore subject to dury or free; that Mr. Astor's attorney claimed, in reply, that personal effects, new or old, were free of doty under the law, and be proposed to make this a test case; that any Mr. Aster's arrival baggage declarations were made by several members of his family, and no claim was made that the articles had been in actual use."

I desire to correct these statements. I am the person referred to as the attorney of Mr. Astor. I did not est on Mr. Merritt for permission to have the baggane passed free of duty. I asked for permission to go inside of the lines established by the revenue officers to count with Mr. Astor and his family and to aid them. I was referred by Mr. Merritt to the Surveyor of the Port, Mr. Bart, who gave me a pass to enter within the lines. Noting more was asked; nothing more was received. Nothing was said to the Collector or Surveyor as to what articles

was said to the Collector or Surveyor as to what articles they had or in relation to what unity would be conrect most them, and nothing was said about this being a base, as I had no idea at the time that there would be any dispute in regard to the duly.

The statement is not correct that, on the arrival of the burgage, no clear was made that the articles had been to actual use. The claim was made that all the articles had been more or least used; but Mr. Aster was heformed by the revenue officer that all desarring appared that had been bought on the other disk, whether

handler)."
It was the opinion of Mr. Aster's counsel that wear,
no apparel pure leased in Europe for the passenger's per-onal and immediate use, and forming part of his wantby fixing the time it should have been in his posser New-York, Nov. 8, 1880.

Mr. Day and the Custom House authorities as to the facts. The statements to which Mr. Day objects were furnished by the Custom House. Our own opinion is that the revenue collected in this way from personal baggage costs the Government more than it comes to .- Ed.]

[There is obviously a misunderstanding between

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE. the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: For the glorious victory won by the Republican party the people of the Nation are in-

First -To the purity of President Haves's administra tion. This made it possible for good men to vote with the Republicans with no sense of shame, and to advecate the continuance of the Republican party in paver without any compromise with wreng. It also enabled our speakers to open our record and invite discussion and criticism; and atthough we were the party la power, we were able to take the offensive and keep it all

through the campaign. Second-To General Grant. He very clearly reconnized the real issues of the campaign, and in his ters, sententious manner, expressed them in language so simple that all could und retend. His personal char. acter, his military renown, and his experience at the head of the Government, made his personal presence in the campaign an immense power for good.

Third-To the Press. The Repusitesu and the lude cendent Republican papers united heartily and carnetis from the day of General Garfield's nomination, and supported him with a loyalty and vigor never before shown toward a candidate. They also took high and manly ground, and wen the sympathy and interest of thoughtful men everywhere. The course pursued by the Republican press has enabled professional gentlemen and business men to take seure and energetic part in the campaign without feedbar that they were thereby becoming parties to the visuperation and scandal so common in politics. By a considerate and high-toned discussion of the issues the Republica press has done much toward litting politics to a higher

ress has done much foward diffing politics to a higher and and purer simesphere. Fourth—To the Republican speakers, Like the Republican in press, they refused to be drawn into the months. can press, they refused to be drawn into the mod and mire so congential to the enemy, and consequently galled a beacing and following they never equid have olderwise secured. The Democratic mid machines reacted upon the Democratic party. The people are issue in the taste for scandal and recognize that hard names are hot arguments.

It is to be hosed that the example set by the Republican press and speakers during the campaign just closed will not be lest upon the Democrats.

M. D. L. Clereland, Ohio, Nov. 6, 1880.

CAUSE OF REPUBLICAN GAINS. to the Editor of the Iribune.

SIR: THE TRIBUNE has given the Republicans of New Jersey credit for the great gains made by them in the State, and requested people in other States not to include in cheap wit against them. I wish to call your attention to the vote in Passaic County and also Passaie City in 1876 and 1880. Passaic County in 1876 gave Hayes a majority of 407. In 1880 Gurfield's majority was 1.800, or more than four times as large as that of four years ago. Passale City in 1876 gave Haves a majority of 108. In 1880 Garffeld's majority was 228. One of the causes that produced the great Republican gain was the low tone of the Democratic canvass. They called Garfield a thirf and a perjurer. One cannot handle pitch without being defied, and men who are considered honorable and decent in every-day life lose all self-respect in their devetion to " Democracy," For example, the chairman of the Hancock Excentive Committee of Passate warnest the committee not to use the forged Chinese letter, as # would injure the party. A prominent Democratic leader thought otherwise, and f.e-simile plates ocratte leader thought otherwise, and f.e-simile plaies of the forged letter were obtained, and the town was flooded with them. This man daily harmed out great numbers of them personally in the streets. As late as the sunday before election a press was kept truning all day printing copies of hits miscrable forcer, which were lett at every house in town the micht before the election. Descript Democrats were dismissed, and some voted the Ropublican tecked in consequence. Is there are henor or deceasy in Democratic pointes?

Passaic, N. J., Nov. S. 1880.

J. R. Hassell.

A LOUD BID FOR THE JACK-RNIFE.

To the Editor of The Tribune Sm: I claim to have discovered the owner of the "Laar's Jack-kulfe." In proof of my claim allow me to call your attention to this choice bit of truther dranger, certainly, than fiction-from The Bridgeport

The Democratic party has excellent reason to be prout of its late compaint. It original data must, committed no forgeties, perpetrated no france, rated no infound discares. It appealed to the reason a size particities of the people, and presented a similest ricket. It commenced an econducted the content and honorable manuer, and, though defeated, cones out of the straggle with honor. It has making to recree, except that the right for which it contented has been evidence. Farmer 2

Did you ever read such unmilligated nor sense ! Bow an you delay a moment i Send the knife at once. Re-A. D. VORCE spectally yours. Hartford, Conn., Nov. 9, 1880.

RELIGION IN BROOKLYN POLITICS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: The Democratic party in Brooklyn is under the domination of the Roman Catholic element to a degree that citizens generally lare little idea of Nearly all the important offices are filled with Roman Catholics. The Shrriff of Kings County, the Register, the Sucregate, the Commissioners of Jurors, the two Coroners, font out of seven Justices of the Peace, and one of the three City Judges are Roman Catholics, Not satisfied with this, the Democrats nominated satisfied with this, the Democrats nonnext James Froy, a Roman Catholic, and a man wind represents the worst elements of the Democrats party and of the city for District A toracy.

This state of facis shows that religion is brought into politics in a new and very dangerous management politics in a new and very dangerous management.

"OLD 329" STILL LEADS. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Siz: From authentic reports just received from Ropkinton, the banner is publican town of Rasdo Island, I learn that her vote stone just 329 majority for erfield out of about 400 votes cast. This town has always been the banner Republican town of the State It not only takes the lead in Republican majorities, but in educational facilities and temperance principles. A figure granted.

W. E. Wells.

New York Nov. 4. 1880.